Weekly Column for June 28, 2007

As the end of the month approaches, the City is gearing up to host yet another Troy Night Out this coming Friday.

This morning I was reading the Times Union on-line and taking a look at the annual Best-Of section, when I stumbled upon the Best Local Arts Scene Development and saw that our terrific monthly event finished a close second to Albany's version (which is on the first Friday of the month). I was happy to see the event make get some more attention, particularly for all of the hard work that the volunteers put into it.

So tomorrow night, make sure you stop down and check out one of the fastest growing events in the Capital District. Whether you are in the mood for dinner at one of restaurants, doing a stroll for arts, for just checking out an authentic downtown environment, we have it all for you here in Troy.

While we are discussing the City and the Best-Of segment in the Times Union today, I want to congratulate some others that were mentioned, including:

- Best Bakery- First Place Bella Napoli, Second Place Vanilla Bean
- Best Farmer's Market- Troy Farmers Market (That's a no-brainer)
- Best Tailor- Third Place- Rodino's
- Best Asian Food- Third Place- Plum Blossom (yes, it's technically in Brunswick)
- Best Bear Tavern- Third Place- Brown's Brewing
- Best Local Pro Athlete- Second Place- Matt Murley
- Best Nightlife Development- Second Place Troy Night Out
- Best Art Gallery- First Place- Kismet Gallery

And of course- the best sledding hill- Frear Park Golf Course.

Numerous other places (Tosca Grille- Best New Restaurant) received honorable mentions in the survey. Congratulations to everyone.

Before you hear from me again, we will have gone past the Fourth of July. So Happy Independence Day to everyone. We are anticipating high activity concerning fireworks Wednesday evening, and the officers will be out in force taking appropriate measures. I know it can be frustrating waiting for police to respond to situations like this, so please be patient Wednesday. We know it is frustrating, and we will do our best to respond to each call quickly. Everyone else reading- please leave the fireworks to the professionals.

Have a wonderful weekend, and enjoy the holiday.

Harry J Tutunjian Mayor of Troy